

Claims

- [c1] An animal litter consisting of wood particles and wood shavings and baking soda, wherein the wood particles and wood shavings are selected from the group consisting of pine and aspen, to thereby provide a litter with optimal absorbency and odor control characteristics.
- [c2] The litter of claim 1, wherein the wood particles and wood shavings are pine.
- [c3] The litter of claim 2, wherein the pine is yellow pine.
- [c4] The litter of claim 2, wherein the pine is Ponderosa pine.
- [c5] The litter of claim 2, wherein the pine is white pine.
- [c6] The litter of claim 1, wherein the wood particles and wood shavings are entirely aspen.
- [c7] The litter of claim 3, wherein the litter has a 50/50 mix of yellow pine shavings to shredded yellow pine.
- [c8] The litter of claim 7, wherein the pine shavings have a particle size ranging from about 1/2 inch to about 1 and 1/2 inches in width.

- [c9] The litter of claim 7 wherein the pine is mixed with baking soda at a weight percentage of baking soda in the range of about 1% to about 10%.
- [c10] The litter of claim 9, wherein the mix of pine and baking soda has a weight percentage of baking soda of about 4%.
- [c11] The litter of claim 6, wherein the aspen is comprised of a mixture of 80% by weight of shredded aspen strands with a wood fiber of 1/4 inch to 1/2 inch in length and 20% aspen shavings with a particle size of about 1/2 inch square.
- [c12] The litter of claim 11, wherein about 85% of the shredded aspen strands are retained on a number 20 mesh screen.
- [c13] The litter of claim 11, wherein the baking soda is included in the mix of aspen at a weight percent of about 1% to about 6%.
- [c14] The litter of claim 13, wherein the baking soda is included in the mix of aspen at a weight percent of about 4%.
- [c15] The litter of claim 6, wherein the aspen has absorbency of about 191% by weight.

[c16] An animal litter consisting of wood particles and baking soda, wherein the wood particles are selected from the group consisting of pine and aspen, to thereby provide a litter with optimal absorbency and odor control characteristics.

[c17] An animal litter consisting of wood shavings and baking soda, wherein the wood shavings are selected from the group consisting of pine and aspen, to thereby provide a litter with optimal absorbency and odor control characteristics.

[c18] A method of making an animal litter, comprising: providing a mixture of wood particles and wood shavings to a preselected size and ratio of particles to shavings; wherein the wood particles and wood shavings are selected from the group consisting of pine and aspen; and adding baking soda to a preselected weight percentage of the wood mixture, to thereby provide a litter with optimal absorbency and odor control characteristics.

[c19] The method of claim 18, and further comprising the step of selecting a mixture of wood particles and wood shavings which is entirely aspen and formed of a mixture of about 80% by weight of shredded aspen strands with a wood fiber of 1/4 inch to 1/2 inch in length and about

20% by weight aspen shavings with a particle size of about 1/2 inch square.

[c20] The method of claim 18, and further comprising the step of selecting a mixture of wood particles and wood shavings which is entirely pine in an approximate 50/50 mix of pine shavings to shredded pine, wherein the pine shavings have a particle size ranging from about 1/2 inch by about 1 and 1/2 inch, and wherein the pine is mixed with baking soda at a weight percentage of baking soda in the range of about 1% to about 10%.